

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 12 and 49 as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A cross-linking compound which comprises:
 - 2 (a) an anhydrous hydrocarbon compound liquid at ambient temperature;
 - 3 (b) having at least one di- or poly- Group VI-A element of the periodic table of
 - 4 elements; and
 - 5 (c) a natural or synthetic polymer liquid at ambient temperature having a
 - 6 molecular weight less than 25,000 ~~30,000~~.
- 1 2. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said Group VI-
- 2 A element is sulfur.
- 1 3. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said polymer
- 2 is a multi-component polymer.
- 1 4. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said polymer
- 2 is saturated.
- 1 5. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said polymer
- 2 contains functional groups.
- 1 6. (Previously Withdrawn)

2 7. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said polymer
3 contains two or more chemical moieties.

1 8. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 7 wherein said polymer
2 is a copolymer of butylene and butene.

1 Claims 9 and 10 (Previously Withdrawn)

1 11. (Previously Canceled)

1 12. (Currently Amended) A cross-linking compound which comprises:
2 (a) an anhydrous hydrocarbon compound liquid at ambient temperature;
3 (b) molecules or chemical moieties having two or more Group VI-A elements of
4 the periodic table of elements; and
5 (c) a natural or synthetic polymer liquid at ambient temperature having a
6 molecular weight less than 25,000 ~~30,000~~.

1 13. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said polymer
2 is a multi-component polymer.

1 14. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said polymer
2 is saturated.

3 15. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said polymer
4 contains functional groups.

1 16. (Previously Withdrawn)

1 17. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said polymer
2 contains two or more chemical moieties.

1 18. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said polymer
2 is a copolymer of butylene and butene.

1 19. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said Group
2 VI-A elements of the periodic table of elements are in terminal positions on the molecules or
3 chemical moieties.

1 20. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 19 wherein at least one
2 of said Group VI-A elements of the periodic table of elements is sulfur.

1 21. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 20 wherein the molecules
2 or chemical moieties are mercaptans.

1 22. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said Group
2 VI-A elements of the periodic table of elements are not in the terminal position of the molecules or
3 chemical moieties.

1 23. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 22 wherein said Group
2 VI-A elements of the periodic table of elements are poly-element moieties within the molecules or
3 chemical moieties.

1 24. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 23 wherein at least one
2 of said Group VI-A elements is sulfur.

1 25. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 23 wherein the molecules
2 or chemical moieties are Di-tert-butyl polysulfide, Di-tert-dodecyl polysulfide, Di-tert-nonyl
3 polysulfide or combinations thereof.

1 26. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 23 wherein the poly-
2 element moiety is poly-sulfide.

Claims 27 through 35 (Previously Withdrawn)

Claims 36 through 38 (Previously Canceled)

Claims 39 - 46 (Previously Withdrawn)

Claims 47 and 48 (Previously Canceled)

1 49. (Currently Amended) A cross-linking compound which comprises:

2 (a) an anhydrous hydrocarbon compound liquid at ambient temperature having
3 elemental sulfur, oxygen or selenium therein, wherein said hydrocarbon compound is Di-tert-butyl
4 polysulfide, Di-tert-dodecyl polysulfide, Di-tert-nonyl polysulfide or combinations thereof; and

5 (b) an ethylenic polymer liquid at ambient temperature having a molecular weight
6 less than 25,000 ~~30,000~~, wherein said polymer is a copolymer of butylene and butene.

1 50. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said anhydrous
2 hydrocarbon compound is an organic process oil from crude or coal processing.

1 51. (Original) A cross-linking compound as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said anhydrous
2 hydrocarbon compound is an organic process oil from crude or coal processing.